

THE LINE OF
DC
SUPER-STARS

WHO KNOWS WHAT EVIL LURKS
IN THE HEARTS OF MEN?

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NO. 2
JAN.
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THE SHADOW

THE

Shadow

APPROVED
BY THE
COMIC
CODE
AUTHORITY

WHO IS... **The**
FREAK SHOW
KILLER?
The Shadow KNOWS!



"FREAK SHOW MURDERS"

BENZARE... A KNIFE-THROWER WITH A NASTY TEMPER!

SPIDORA... BODY OF AN INSECT, HEAD OF A LOVELY WOMAN!

NICCO... ARE CIGARETTES HIS ONLY VICE?

DAMON and PYTHIAS... THE INSEPARABLE TWINS!

AGAINST THE GAUDY BACKGROUND OF THE CARNIVAL, THE HARLEQUIN PLAYS HIS GRIM GAME OF DEATH! WHO IS THE MURDER FIEND IN THE GAY GARB...?

ALHAMBRA... SNAKES ARE HER ONLY FRIENDS!

PANCHINI... DOES THE HARLEQUIN'S COSTUME HIDE HIS TATTOOS?

AJAX... IS HE AS MAD AS HE SEEMS?

ONLY A MOCKING, DISTANT LAUGH SEEMS TO KNOW THE KILLER'S IDENTITY!

THE *Shadow*

FROM THE SHADOW'S PRIVATE FILES AS TOLD TO--
PENNY O'NEIL - WRITER KW KALUTA - ARTIST

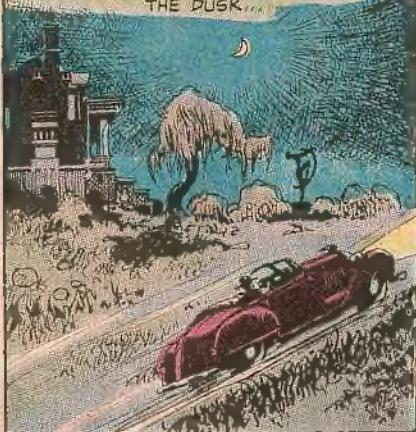
POP SORBER... A BOSS WITH A NEED FOR MONEY!

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A REMOTE MANSION SOMEWHERE
IN SOUTH CAROLINA...AND A SLEEK
ROADSTER SPEEDING THROUGH
THE DUSK...



FROM THE CAR STEPS
A YOUNG, ATHLETIC-
LOOKING MAN, AND...

I'M STEVE KILROY!
MISTER TREFT IS
EXPECTING ME!



THEN...

MISTER MILTON TREFT?
I HAVE A CHECK FOR ONE
MILLION DOLLARS!
IT'S YOURS, PROVIDED THE
PRODUCT IS ALL YOU
CLAIM!



...AMAZING!--A LIFE-SIZED
SCULPTURE WEIGHING ONLY
OUNCES!

AND WITH
THE TENSILE
STRENGTH
OF STEEL!

THE FORMULA FOR
THIS IS WORTH
THE MILLION!

THERE IS NO FORMULA,
KILROY! THE MAN WHO
INVENTED ALUMITE
DIED BEFORE WRITING
ANYTHING DOWN!

THERE IS JUST
THE STATUE YOU
HOLD! BUT I'M
SURE YOUR COMPANY'S
CHEMISTS WILL BE
ABLE TO DEDUCE
THE SECRET!





SO INTENT IS STEVE KILROY ON FLIGHT, HE DOES NOT NOTICE A GRIM-VISAGED FORM EMERGE FROM THE BLACKNESS ...



...NOR DOES HE HEAR A
MARROW-CHILLING LAUGH...

HURRY!
PUT THE STATUE
IN THE TRUCK
AND --

HAHAHAHAHA

Y-YOU
HEAR
THAT?

YEAH... AND
I FEEL SAFER
WITH A FISTFUL
OF GUN!

DROP
YOUR
WEAPONS!

THERE HE
IS! BLAST
'IM ...

UNNNGH!

BLAM!

PANIC-STRICKEN, THE GUNMAN FIRES WILDLY AT
WHERE THE BLACK-CLOAKED FIGURE WAS--

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLA

HIS WORK DONE, THE STRANGE,
DEADLY FORM MELTS INTO THE
NIGHT...



...AND SOON, IN A ROADSIDE DINER, A SPLENDIDLY CLAD
MAN DIALS A NUMBER LISTED IN NO DIRECTORY! IN A
LOW VOICE HE SPEAKS...



--BUT IN THE BATTLE,
THE BIG FISH GOT
AWAY WITH HIS PRIZE!
TELL MARGO TO JOIN
THE SORBER CARNIVAL
IN TITUSVILLE!



SO, THE FOLLOWING EVENING, MARGO LANE FINDS
HERSELF ON A GARISH MIDWAY NEAR A SMALL
SOUTHERN TOWN...



QUICKLY, SHE LOCATES THE OWNER AND, DISGUIISING HER REFINED SPEECH, CALLS COARSELY--



AW--DON'T WORRY!
I AIN'T GONNA AST
YA TO CUT OFF
YER EARS OR
NOTHIN'--



--ALL YA GOTTA
DO IS STICK YOUR
HEAD THROUGH A
HOLE IN THE BACK
OF A BOOTH--



--AND PRETEND
TO BE SPIDORA,
THE HUMAN
SPIDER!

SOUNDS REAL
EASY! YOU
GOT A DEAL,
POP!



C'MON... I'LL
INTRODUCE YA
'ROUND!

HERE'S OUR
TATOOED
MAN--
PANCHINI!

THIS WALKING
ART GALLERY
IS PLEASED TO
MEET YOU!

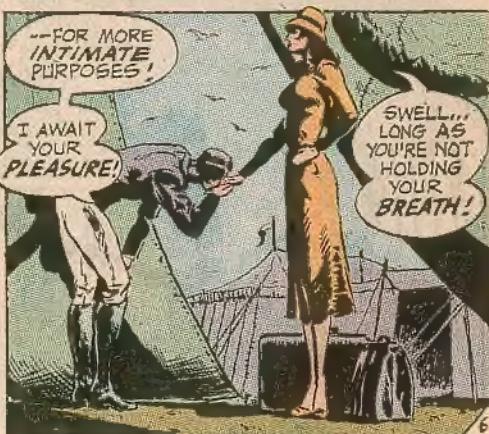
NOW, MEET ALHAMBRA, QUEEN OF THE SNAKES... AND BEHIND HER, BENZARE, THE KNIFE THROWER.



--FOR MORE
INTIMATE
PURPOSES!

I AWAIT
YOUR
PLEASURE!

SWELL...
LONG AS
YOU'RE NOT
HOLDING
YOUR
BREATH!



SAY HOWDY TO A
COUPLE FELLOWS
JOINED US
YESTERDAY--

--AJAX THE WILD
MAN AND NICCO,
THE CIGARETTE
FIEND!

UM-
GOWA!

BEST SAY HELLO
QUICK! I'M NOT GOING
TO LIVE LONG, THE
WAY I'M RUINING
MY HEALTH!

LAST BUT NOT LEAST... OUR STAR
ATTRACTION... ER-- ATTRACTIONS...

DAMON AND
PYTHIAS, THE
INSEPARABLE
TWINS!

I'M
SURE...

--WE'LL BE
CLOSE
FRIENDS!

INTO SLAMESE TWIN

SHRILL CALLIOPE MUSIC... THE HARSH URGING OF BARKERS... THE SMELL OF POPCORN
AND STICKY TASTE OF COTTON CANDY...

...A MAD KALEIDOSCOPE OF
BLINKING LIGHTS AND
CHILDREN'S WIDE EYES...

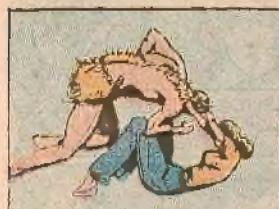


...SUDDENLY, MARSO IS PART OF A WORLD AS
ALIEN TO MOST PEOPLE AS MARS-- THE
CARNIVAL!

AND, AFTER THE FINAL PERFORMANCE OF THE EVENING...



--AND IT'S THE VERY MAN I'M LOOKING FOR!



CONTINUED ON 3rd PAGE FOLLOWING



S L E N T L Y,
S W I F T L Y,
H E C R O S S E S
T H E -



ONLY TO ARRIVE AT THE SNAKE
WOMAN'S WAGON TOO LATE!



W I T H A S O F T SIGH THE SNAKE WOMAN DIES..

SHE WAS MURDERED
BECAUSE SHE ACCIDENTALLY
LEARNED THE HARLEQUIN'S
IDENTITY!

THE POOR
THING--

...ER--PARDON ME!
I SAW HIM HEADING
TOWARD THE PLACE
WHERE THEY PARKED THE
B.G. STUFFED
WHALE!



I CAN
CALL THE
SHERIFF
AN-

WHERE D
HE GO?

TO
CATCH A
FIEND



YES SILENTLY AND SAFELY HE MOVES TO LATCH A FIEND--



FLAME SPITS FROM THE DIRECTION OF THE GIGANTIC BEAST--!



PLIZZLED, THE PIEBALD CRIMINAL STEPS FORWARD AND PEERS AROUND--

--AND IS FROZEN BY AN COMMAND!

DROP YOUR WEAPON--OR BE SERVED AS YOU SERVED ALHAMBRA!

AND REMOVE YOUR MASK!



BOY O BOY, YOU ARE SOMETHING.
SHADON! YOU CAUGHT THE RAT! I'LL ADMIT,

"I'D NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO--"



THEN--

--OOPS!

--THE HAPLESS STEVE K.--
FOOT CATCHES ON A TENT ROPE--



--BRINGING A CANVAS SHROUD DOWN ON THE WHALE
AND THE SHADOW!



MEANWHILE
N-A-FWBRAS
QUARTERS



GREED AND FURY, PICTURE
JERRY KNIFE CUTS OFF
HIS JACKET!!!

BY A BULLET--!

I'LL AIM
DIFFERENTLY!
YOU'RE
WARNING!





I SAW THE HARLEQUIN
ESCAPE FROM TREET'S!
HE WAS RUNNING
TOWARD THE CARNIVAL
SITE!

AS NICCO, I
JOINED THE SHOW,
HOPING THE VILLAIN
WOULD REVEAL
HIS PLANS.

WELL DID HE?

DO YOU KNOW
WHO HE IS?

HIM?

I DO! IT'S
THE HARLEQUIN!

YA GOOFED,
MASTER! DAMON
AND PYTHIAS WAS
PERFORMIN' WHEN
I FELL DOWN.

BESIDES...
THEY'RE SIAMESE
TWINS! THEY'RE
PERMANENTLY
JOINED!

THEY ARE
BUT THEY ARE
NOT
JOINED! WAIT!

CARNIVAL

A MIRROR.

I DISCOVERED THE TRICK
EARLIER--AS NICCO!

SO THIS
BIRD'S BEEN
CALMING MY
GRIEF! WAIT
TILL I GET
MY HANDS
ON HIM--

STEVE...
NO! YOU'RE
IN THE LINE
OF FIRE!

ONE
MOVE--
FROM ANY-
ONE-- AND
I'LL SPLATTER
HIS BRAINS ON
THE FLOOR!

HE'S GETTING
AWAY-- AGAIN!

HE'LL GO TO JOIN
HIS BROTHER-- AND
I KNOW WHERE THE
SECOND TWIN HAS
TO BE!

THE TWINS ARE
FOREIGN AGENTS,
SENT TO OF-EAN A
SAMPLE OF THE
MIRACLE METAL
--ALUMITE'

THEIR PROBLEM IS
TO MOVE THE ALUMITE
STATUE INT'L-- THEY
REACH THE COAST--
A LARGE STATUE
REMEMBER?

THERE IS ONLY ONE
PLACE IN THE SHOW
THEY COULD SAFELY
CONCEAL IT'

NEAR THE RAILROAD TRACKS,
THE SHADOW PAUSES, SCANS...
AND SEES THE WHALE LOADED
ON A CAR BEHIND THE HUFFING
LOCOMOTIVE--



--ANOTHER IS ALREADY
AT THE MAMMOTH STUFFED
SEA-CREATURE!



A LAUGH JOLTS HIM LIKE
AN ELECTRICAL SHOCK--



YOU'VE REACHED YOUR
END, HARLEQUIN!

NO HE
HASN'T,
MEDDLER--



--YOU
HAVE!

HE'S BETWEEN US,
BROTHER! COUNT THREE
--AND WE'LL BOTH FIRE
AT ONCE!





PANTING, THE PIEBALD KILLER RUNS TO THE LOCOMOTIVE--



--YANKS A LEVER, SETTING THE TRAIN IN MOTION! TO A BOUND, HELPLESS STEVE HE GRATES--



I--THE HARLEQUIN--WILL BE FREE! AND YOU, MR. KILROY, WILL BE FINISHED!

WHAT ABOUT ME?
DO YOU THINK YOU
CAN FINISH THE
SHADOW?



I'VE BEEN
EXPECTING YOU!
YOU'VE OVERLOOKED
ONE THING--

21



CLANK-ANK



WIND TEARING AT THEM, THESE TWO CLOSE IN
A FINAL, FIERCE STRUGGLE...



DESPERATELY, THE HARLEQUIN
LURCHES, HIS MOMENTUM
CARRYING HIM OUT OF THE
RACING CAB --



HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA

THE SHADOW
NEVER FAILS !